Appl. No.

09/767,207

Filed

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January 22, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 28, 30, 32-38, 41, 44, and 45 stand rejected. Claims 29, 31, 39, 40, 43, 47, 48, and 49 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. In response, Applicants have re-written Claims 29, 31, 43, 47, and 48 in independent form as new Claims 51 through 55, respectively. Applicants have canceled Claims 1-50 and added new Claims 56-72. Thus, Claims 51-72 are pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and further examination in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Interview Summary

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for taking the time to meet and discuss the outstanding Office Action in a personal interview with counsel for Applicant on June 10, 2005. During the interview, the applied prior art was generally discussed. The Examiner suggested adding language directed to the structure of the luer lock to more clearly define the recited connector body in view of the applied prior art.

New Claims 51 through 55

The Examiner has identified dependent Claims 29, 31, 43, 47, and 48 as containing allowable subject matter. Thus, Applicants have re-written Claims 29, 31, 43, 47, and 48 in independent form as new Claims 51 through 55, respectively. Applicants respectfully request examination of Claims 51 through 55.

New Claims 56 through 72

Applicants have added new Claims 56 through 72. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 56 through 72 are patentable in view of the art of record and request examination of Claims 56 through 72.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

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The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the noted rejections and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain of if an issue requires clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicants' attorney in order to resolve any such issue promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: Dept. 8, 2005

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